

corresponding rail segments, (on the other,) are provided as a holding device at the fibroscope part (11) and at the additional instrument (25), or vice versa.

92
cont.
6. (amended) An endoscope in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that at least one permanent magnet (55) and at least one counter-element (25) made of permanently magnetic or magnetic material are provided as a holding device at the fibroscope part (11), (on the one hand,) and at the additional instrument (25) (on the other,) or vice versa.

93
8. (amended) An endoscope in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that a catch element (61) and a hook device (59) are provided as the holding device at the fibroscope part (11), (on the one hand,) and at the additional instrument (25) (on the other,) or vice versa.

94
10. (amended) An endoscope in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that at least one fastening hoop (29) is provided along the insertion section (13) of the endoscope and spaced from its distal end for the guidance of the additional instrument (25).

11. (amended) An endoscope in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that a jacket hose (31) or a side cover (45) is provided at the fibroscope part (11) as a holding device for the acceptance of the additional instrument (25), said jacket hose (31) or side cover (45) extending along the whole insertion section or along a part of the insertion section (13) of the endoscope.

95
14. (amended) An endoscope in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the cross-section (43) of the insertion section (13) is matched to the body orifice (41); and/or in that the endoscope is formed as a pharyngo-oesophago-gastroscope for the examination of the pharynx, oesophagus and/or stomach, wherein the cross-section (43) of the insertion section (13) is matched to the cross-section of a human meatus of the nose (41).

15. (amended) An endoscope in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the cross-section dimension of the insertion section (13) is larger in one direction, in particular larger at least by a factor of 1.5, than in a direction orthogonal thereto; and/or in that the cross-section (43) of the insertion section (13) corresponds to an isosceles triangle or a mirror-symmetrical trapezium, each with rounded corners and preferably with a base length of at most approximately 3.5 mm.

16. (amended) An endoscope in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the additional instrument (25) is formed by biopsy forceps, an aspirator/injector probe, a pH probe, a pressure measuring instrument and/or a Bilitec measuring probe; and/or in that the maximum cross-section dimension of the additional instrument (25) amounts to at most approximately 3 mm and preferably at most approximately 2 mm.

17. (amended) An endoscope in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the additional instrument (25) is provided laterally spaced with respect to the centre of the cross-section (43) of the insertion section (13); and/or in that the fibroscope part (11) and the additional instrument (25) are displaceable relative to one another by a length of up to approximately 5 cm or of up to approximately 35 cm along their longitudinal directions.

18. (amended) An endoscope in accordance with claim 1, characterised in that the endoscope has a Bowden cable (23) by which the endoscope can be actively swivelled in the direction of its larger cross-sectional dimension; and/or in that at least one separate light transmission passage (17) and at least one separate image transmission passage (19) are provided as the light/image transmission passages.

95
cont.

20030401-03030401

Please add the following new claims:

96

19. (new) A deformable endoscope that has one or more light/image transmission passages (17, 19) and in which at least one additional instrument (25) is provided, wherein the unit of endoscope (11) and additional instrument (25) has a non-round cross-section (43) along a longitudinal section (13) (insertion section) to be inserted into a human or animal body orifice (41), and wherein the light/image transmission ^{passages} or the plurality of light/image transmission passages (17, 19) and the additional instrument (25) form a closed unit.

20. (new) An endoscope in accordance with claim 18, characterised in that the cross-section (43) of the insertion section (13) is matched to the body orifice (41); and/or in that the endoscope is formed as a pharyngo-oesophago-gastroscope for the examination of the pharynx, oesophagus and/or stomach, wherein the cross-section (43) of the insertion section (13) is matched to the cross-section of a human meatus of the nose (41).

21. (new) An endoscope in accordance with claim 18, characterised in that the cross-section dimension of the insertion section (13) is larger in one direction, in particular larger at least by a factor of 1.5, than in a direction orthogonal thereto; and/or in that the cross-section (43) of the insertion section (13) corresponds to an isosceles triangle or a mirror-symmetrical trapezium, each with rounded corners and preferably with a base length of at most approximately 3.5 mm.

22. (new) An endoscope in accordance with claim 18, characterised in that the additional instrument (25) is formed by biopsy forceps, an aspirator/injector probe, a pH probe, a pressure measuring instrument and/or a Bilitec measuring probe; and/or in that the maximum cross-section dimension of the additional instrument (25) amounts to at most approximately 3 mm and preferably at most approximately 2 mm.

23. (new) An endoscope in accordance with claim 18, characterised in that the additional instrument (25) is provided laterally spaced with respect to the centre of the cross-section (43) of the insertion section (13); and/or in that the fibroscope part (11) and

the additional instrument (25) are displaceable relative to one another by a length of up to approximately 5 cm or of up to approximately 35 cm along their longitudinal directions.

24. (amended) An endoscope in accordance with claim (18) characterised in that the endoscope has a Bowden cable (23) by which the endoscope can be actively swivelled in the direction of its larger cross-sectional dimension; and/or in that at least one separate light transmission passage (17) and at least one separate image transmission passage (19) are provided as the light/image transmission passages.

a6
cont


20030407 010200

REMARKS:

Claims 1-23 are pending.

Amendment is made to eliminate all multiple dependencies from the claims,
thereby avoiding the need to pay the multiple dependent surcharge.

Respectfully submitted,


J. Georg Seka
Reg. No. 24,491

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: (415) 576-0200
Fax: (415) 576-0300
JGS/dxm

SF 1258545 v1

2025-01-07 14:00:00